

The Intelligencer.

Bad News from Washington.

The dispatches from the National Capital this morning, disclosing the corruption and malfeasance in office of the Secretary of War, are such as to surprise and shock the whole country. The people of the United States of all parties will read them with pain and humiliation. It really seems incredible that so high an office of the Government should enter into such nefarious schemes of plunder. And yet the same department of the Government has once before been disgraced by the corruptions of its chief, in the person of John B. Floyd, Secretary of War under James Buchanan, who achieved a notoriety in the Fort Snelling affair sufficiently infamous to stand as a warning to his successors for all time to come.

As we write, the news is coming over the wires concerning the nature of Secretary Belknap's transactions, and we must refer the reader to our Congressional reports for full particulars. The guilt of the officer, stands confessed, and there is no doubt about it. He is only too anxious to resign and escape impeachment. As yet it is not certainly known whether his resignation has been accepted by the President.

And speaking of the President, the country will deplore the swift occurrence of such an exposure upon the heels of the Baskett trial. The question will be, where is this thing of corruption in high office to end? Have we seen the worst of it? We have had Boss Shepherd exposed, McDonald, Joyce, Babcock, Schenck, and Belknap exposed, and now what next? The lightning strikes very persistently at high appointees of the President. Not that he himself stands implicated, but that so unfortunately, he seems to be the centre of a group of office-holders such as no President should care to be surrounded by.

The country, while deploring General Grant's mistaken partialities, and friendships, personal and political, will grow more impatient than ever at the talk about a third term. The motto of the Rothschilds is said to be, "have nothing to do with an unlucky man." The report will now be inclined to utterly scout the idea of a third term for President Grant, on the ground, if for no other reason, than that he is such an unlucky man in his surroundings. They will want to try the experiment of substituting some one who will more certainly conduct the moral quality of those whose conduct is to give character, good or bad, to his administration.

BELMONT COUNTY NEWS.—A good many sick people just at this time in St. Clairsville. No particular disease prevailing.

The liquor cases have thus far yielded \$1,500 in the way of fines.

Lands in Flushing township have risen \$10 per acre since the location of the railroad. See the *Chronicle* reports.

That paper says that Rev. Jas. Moffatt, of this city, is a great favorite over at St. Clairsville.

Seventy-five shares of Bridgeport Bank stock, and twenty-two of La Belle Glass stock, are to be sold at the residence of Mary Bracken in Colerain township on the 14th inst.

Belmont county pays the State of Ohio this year \$36,442 45 taxes. Of this amount \$17,923 26 has already been paid. Per cent, the county will get back \$12,479 20 on account of the State common school fund, and \$6,315 99 on account of interest on section 16.

We notice that A. J. Baggs, E. F. Rhodes and William Alexander are keeping the matter of railroad subscription before the people. They addressed a meeting at Wheeling Valley school house on Friday night last.

Eleven convictions for penitentiary offences have occurred this term of court: Four for burglary, one for manslaughter, one for arson, and five for stabbing with intent to kill. In addition, there were five convictions for assault and battery. The motto of Kennon, according to the *Chronicle*, is, "let no guilty man escape." His opinion is that an indicted man should be sent up on general principles. Even if not guilty of the crime charged, he is generally guilty of "general consciousness."

And now the Grangers are talking of forming mutual protection organizations whereby a dozen or more farmers may band together and insure each other's property against fire.

A writer in the *Gazette* says that in Warren township there are 200 known intemperate drinkers, and the Lord only knows how many unknown. This out of a population of 4,500.

They look forward to a railroad at St. Clairsville to deliver them from 10 cents per bushel for coal.

Mrs. Hummel, aged 105, died at St. Clairsville Monday night.

The next session of the M. E. Conference for the Barnesville district, will be held at Bridgeport.

Marriages are on the increase in Belmont county this year.

A delegation of New Athens people lately visited St. Clairsville to ascertain the prospects for a continuance of the Belknap and St. Clairsville Narrow Gauge Railroad via New Athens and Cadiz to Bowertown. They say they can raise a subscription of \$75,000.

STUBENVILLE NEWS.—Vierling & Atkinson advertise to make six Wamsutter shirts for \$9.00, and warrant them equal to the best 2 1/2 shirts. It is the old story we suppose of being able to sell goods for less than cost, by reason of selling so many of them.

The railroad tax collected in Stubenville township amounts to \$3,714 91. Some of the expenses of the city are as follows: lamps, \$2,533 33; police, \$844 43; fire department, \$1,155 92; streets and \$178, \$8,444 43.

A new first class ferry boat is being built on the Monongahela, for the Stubenville trade.

Belknap and Barnesville as Rivals.

The Belknap correspondent of the *Intelligencer* having casually remarked that Barnesville seemed to be jealous of Belknap, referring perhaps to the tobacco warehouse project, the Barnesville *Enterprise* writes a paragraph of a column's length to "scorn the insinuation." "Jealous of Belknap!" exclaims the Editor. "Perish the thought!"

"We would as soon think of being jealous of Wheeling, which has all intents and purposes as great a hold upon this county as Belknap. The latter is a manufacturing, not a commercial city, and exists solely for the purpose of furnishing the outside world with manufactured articles and to supply the wants of its own population. It has but a slight hold upon the people of the county, and exerts no nearly so much influence as St. Clairsville. So far as thought, intelligence, or leadership is concerned, Belknap might as well be out of the State. The business of her people is to produce, and they do it well; but their influence ceases there, far from extending to the sympathies of the country; her press has a limited circulation; and she is to most of the ruralists like a city outside of the county."

The above is a rather aggravating sort of disclaimer, and we shall be disappointed if the Belknap papers do not resent it with becoming indignation. But had it not, it is modestly itself compared with the following remark.

"When the farmer of Eastern Ohio thinks of buying a new suit, he comes here; when the rural dame determines on an outfit, she never thinks of going to Belknap, and entering, as they did the houses of Jerusalem, through the house-top, but comes to the city of Belknap, where she can buy as well as select, and select the love of a bonnet and her stylish dresses from the unlimited stock at our command."

Jealous of Belknap! Perish the thought! It is like a pretty woman, with cheeks red as a peach, teeth of pearl, and hair like the golden sunlight, with grace and beauty, who leads in fashion, as well as in style, and selects the love of a bonnet and her stylish dresses from the unlimited stock at our command."

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Crookedness in the War Department—\$10,000 to Mrs. Belknap.

Belknap's Decision in Official Circles.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2.—The report that Mr. Marshall, of New York, testified yesterday before the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department that he paid Mrs. Belknap \$10,000 yearly since the outbreak of the war, and that the Secretary did not deny the truth of the charge, becoming generally known this morning, caused much surprise and excitement in official and other circles. Inquiries were made in all quarters as to the source of the report, and the result was that the Secretary had been so reported by the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, and that the Secretary had been so reported by the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, and that the Secretary had been so reported by the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department.

Levi P. Luckey has resigned as private secretary to the President, as the latter desired to continue his own Ulises in his office. Mr. Luckey has accepted a responsible position in the Department of the Interior.

A Republican member of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department.

has been authorized for stating that Secretary Belknap has not yet been before the committee, but is to be examined this afternoon. The same authority has been given to the President has accepted Belknap's resignation. A report on the subject will be made to the House to-day if the committee is able to finish taking testimony before adjournment.

MORE PARTICULARS.

NEW YORK, March 2.—A special from Washington says Tomlinson, brother of Mrs. Belknap, was before the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department this morning and denounced the statement that he acted as an intermediary between Belknap and Marshall as false. Judge Blair and Marshall are again before the committee. Nothing else is talked about in the capital and the greatest excitement prevails.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The report of the testimony implicating Secretary Belknap in the matter of the sale of the office of post trader at Fort Sill is the theme of comment everywhere in this city to-day. Secretary Belknap has been before the committee, and the President has accepted his resignation, asking that it be accepted without delay. It is stated at the White House that his resignation was promptly accepted, but the exact language of the President's reply has not yet been obtained. Belknap has remained in the city, and has not yet been before the committee.

Resolved, That the testimony in the case of Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War, be referred to the Judiciary Committee with instructions to prepare and report without unnecessary delay suitable evidence of impeachment of said Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War.

Resolved, That a committee of five members of the House be appointed and instructed to proceed immediately to the bar of the Senate and there impeach Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War, in the United States of high crime and misdemeanor, and to inform the body that formal articles of impeachment will in due time be presented, and to request the Senate to make such order in the premises as they deem appropriate.

Mr. Clymer then proceeded to read the testimony of Caleb P. Marsh taken yesterday before the committee, and which was reported to the House. Another occasion may be afforded me to do so. They are so plain that everywhere throughout this broad land and throughout Christendom, wherever the English language is read or spoken, they will for long years

constitute a record of official corruption and crimes, such as there is no parallel for in our own history or in that of any country that I know of. In this hour, if one sentiment of pity, one word of sympathy could find utterance from me it would be because I feel that the late Secretary of War is but the proper outgrowth, the true exponent of corruption, extravagance and lawlessness in this country.

Believing my own own reflection I will discharge my duty best to myself and to this House by demanding the previous question.

Mr. Kasson appealed to Mr. Clymer to give an opportunity for some suggestion to be made before asking the previous question on a matter of so grave importance.

Mr. Clymer regretted that he could not oblige his friend.

Several Democratic members—Yes, yes. And for the reason that his colleagues on the committee desired to be heard before the question on a matter of so grave importance.

Mr. Kasson—Allow me to say that there will not be the slightest opposition to their being all heard.

Mr. Clymer—I decline to yield and demand the previous question.

Mr. Kasson—Does the gentleman expect the House to-night after 12 o'clock without this report being printed, to vote on these resolutions, when even the impeachment of the officer at present is a question to be considered by the House.

Mr. Clymer—After the previous question has been ordered, I will yield to all the members of the House who wish to be heard on the other side of the House.

After some further discussion, the previous question was seconded, and Mr. Clymer yielded the floor to his colleague on the committee, Mr. Robbins.

Mr. Robbins pleaded his mental and physical exhaustion, and a continued illness, and requested that the House should not address the House at any length. He spoke of the report as presenting a case of great shame and disgrace to all American citizens. As to the question of the impeachment of an officer who had resigned, he was not prepared to speak tonight, except to suggest that he could not believe that an officer who was being investigated and who had been found by evidence to be a criminal could flee from justice. He alluded to what he called the unseemly acceptance of Secretary Belknap's resignation, and to the English cases of Warren Hastings and Lord Baco, both of whom had been impeached after they had ceased to hold the office in which they committed the crimes and misdemeanors.

By Telegraph

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER

CONGRESS.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1876.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Mr. Morrison Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means presented his views in the minority on the bill to carry into effect the Hawaiian treaty. Ordered printed.

The Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations reported a bill appropriating \$163,000 to provide for engraving, printing, and other expenses of making the laws of the United States notes, and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue silver coin of the denomination of 10, 20, 25, and 50 cents in the redemption of equal amount of fractional currency, and to provide for such redemption until the whole amount of the fractional currency is redeemed. Ordered printed.

Mr. Sawyer, Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands reported a bill declaring void all unperfected entries of public lands in which the Commissioner of the General Land Office has decided that the patents shall issue, and which have been confirmed by the Secretary of the Interior, and Attorney General, and repeating section 2452 of the Revised Statutes. After an explanation the bill passed.

Mr. Sawyer also reported a bill to amend the act of March, 1874, to ensure the growth of timber on the western prairies. It adds to the existing law a provision that whenever a party holding a claim under that act shall prove that the trees planted and growing have been destroyed by grasshoppers, the year or years in which such destruction occurred shall not count as any forfeiture to the rights and privileges of the act. The time allowed shall be extended accordingly. It also provides that the proper planting of seeds or cuttings shall be considered a compliance to the Timber Culture Act. It also provides that the trees planted and growing shall be considered a compliance to the Timber Culture Act. It also provides that the trees planted and growing shall be considered a compliance to the Timber Culture Act.

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